

**Cc:** Ed Choromanski[Ed.Choromanski@dep.state.nj.us]; Butler, Elizabeth[Butler.Elizabeth@epa.gov]; Vaughn, Stephanie[Vaughn.Stephanie@epa.gov]; rlaw@demaximis.com[rlaw@demaximis.com]; Mugdan, Walter[Mugdan.Walter@epa.gov]; Plevin, Lisa[Plevin.Lisa@epa.gov]; jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org[jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org]; Aaron Kleinbaum[akleinbaum@easternenvironmental.org]; Jeff Meyer[Jeffrey.Meyer@dep.state.nj.us]; Vanessa Day[vanessa.day@DEP.state.NJ.US]; Mark Burghoffer[Mark.Burghoffer@dep.state.nj.us]  
**To:** Basso, Ray[Basso.Ray@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bongiorno Productions  
**Sent:** Wed 2/27/2013 7:13:55 PM  
**Subject:** Re: URGENT: Cleanup Noxious Odors - Meeting with filmmakers

Dear Ray-

We have yet to receive the response from the EPA/DEP that you mentioned re: our longstanding odor complaints.

It's critical that we meet with the EPA and the following DEP reps, who are knowledgeable of our air complaints and met with us (in Trenton and some reps experienced the noxious odors at our home and at the Diamond Alkali site):

Director Ed Choromanski

Mr. Jeff Meyer and Mr. Doug Banning (spelling?)

Mr. Mark Burghoffer

Ms. Vanessa Day

Newark Firefighters who verified the odors can also be included.

#### UNANSWERED QUESTIONS:

1. Define health risks associated with Mark Burhoffer's level "2" designation of the chlorine smell he experienced at our home?
2. What is the effect of the noxious odors on home vegetable gardens, i.e. is it safe to consume produce?

Per Lisa Plevin's email:

On Dec 26, 2012, at 10:25 AM, [Plevin.Lisa@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Plevin.Lisa@epamail.epa.gov) wrote:

*The EPA has attempted to convene a meeting on several occasions with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)'s air programs division. The EPA requested this meeting to understand the involvement of the NJDEP in the matter, whether they took air samples during their inspections of the site and whether the NJDEP believes that there were air emissions or odor problems associated with the dredging and processing of Passaic River sediment. Unfortunately the NJDEP's air program has not been able to meet with the EPA on this matter.*

This inattention and disregard of our odor complaints, which consumed a great deal of our time and effort to document, along with the involvement and investigation of the NJDEP, is negligent and unacceptable.

Also, we have serious concerns about emissions from the upcoming Lyndhurst Clean-up and sediment washing.

**Please confirm receipt and advise re: date/time of a group meeting to resolve this issue.**

Sincerely,  
-Marylou

Marylou & Jerome Bongiorno  
filmmakers  
Bongiorno Productions  
US phone/fax: 973.481.0076  
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[www.BongiornoProductions.com](http://www.BongiornoProductions.com)

On Feb 20, 2013, at 6:58 PM, Basso, Ray wrote:

Hi Marylou, We are working out the logistics of preparing a joint EPA/DEP response and should be sending it to you this week. At this point, we (EPA/DEP) do not anticipate the need for a follow-up meeting since we believe all the relevant information pertaining to your odor complaints has been fully vetted between the agencies.

The Cooperating Parties Group has been working with the DEP on air permitting, but a location for the processing of sediment has not been selected. Feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

From: Bongiorno Productions [bonpix@verizon.net]

Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 11:09 AM

To: Basso, Ray

Subject: Re: URGENT: Cleanup Noxious Odors - Meeting with filmmakers

Hi, Ray-

Checking on a date for our follow-up meeting with EPA and NJDEP?

Also, has a processing plant been selected for the Lyndhurst Clean-up? If so, what is its location?

Thanks for your assistance,  
-Marylou

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On Jan 31, 2013, at 2:29 PM, Basso.Ray@epamail.epa.gov wrote:

Marylou, I am in the field today, received your email and will follow up with DEP and get back to you.

-----Bongiorno Productions <bonpix@verizon.net> wrote: -----

To: Ray Basso/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, Ed Choromanski  
<Ed.Choromanski@dep.state.nj.us>, Vanessa Day  
<Jeffrey.Meyer@dep.state.nj.us>, Mark  
Burghoffer <Mark.Burghoffer@dep.state.nj.us>, Elizabeth  
Butler/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Hoppe/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, Stephanie  
Vaughn/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, rlaw@demaximis.com,  
Dave Kluesner/R2/USEPA/US@EPA  
From: Bongiorno Productions <bonpix@verizon.net>  
Date: 01/31/2013 11:53AM  
Cc: Walter Mugdan/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, Lisa Plevin/R2/USEPA/US@EPA,  
Jeff Tittel <jeff.tittel@SierraClub.org>, Aaron Kleinbaum  
<akleinbaum@easternenvironmental.org>  
Subject: Re: URGENT: Cleanup Noxious Odors - Meeting with filmmakers

Dear Ray, EPA, and NJ DEP Representatives-

Please let us know possible dates next week for our follow-up meeting to discuss this critically important issue of noxious odors. This meeting is long overdue.

Ray - kindly confirm receipt.

Thanks for your assistance,  
-Marylou & Jerome Bongiorno

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On Jan 22, 2013, at 1:38 PM, Basso.Ray@epamail.epa.gov wrote:

Marylou, sorry for the misunderstanding, but after talking through your request today on the phone, it my suggestion was that it

would be more appropriate for DEP and EPA to meet first and then schedule a follow-up meeting which you could be invited to. If anyone disagrees with my suggested approach please let me know. Thanks.

-----Bongiorno Productions <bonpix@verizon.net> wrote: -----  
To: Ed Choromanski <vanessa.day@DEP.state.NJ.US>, Jeff Meyer <Mark.Burghoffer@dep.state.nj.us>, Ray Basso/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, Elizabeth Butler/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Hoppe/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, Stephanie Vaughn/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, rlaw@demaximis.com, Dave Kluesner/R2/USEPA/US@EPA  
From: Bongiorno Productions <bonpix@verizon.net>  
Date: 01/22/2013 12:48PM  
Cc: Walter Mugdan/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, Lisa Plevin/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, Jeff Tittel <jeff.tittel@SierraClub.org>  
Subject: URGENT: Cleanup Noxious Odors - Meeting Request from filmmakers

Dear NJDEP and EPA Representatives-

Per conversation with Ray Basso and our public request at the 1.17.13 CAG meeting, it's critically important to present our input at your joint meeting on our noxious odor complaints from the EPA's Passaic River Cleanup at the Diamond Alkali site last year.

This information must be presented by us prior to any upcoming Cleanups.

Our Requests:

1. Can we attend your meeting tomorrow Weds. 1.23 in Edison?
2. Can we film this meeting for possible use in our upcoming documentary?

Special Note: the following NJDEP reps need to be present at this meeting since they're knowledgeable of our air complaints, met with us (in Trenton and some reps experienced the noxious odors at our home and at the Diamond Alkali site):

Director Ed Choromanski

Mr. Jeff Meyer and Mr. Doug Banning (spelling?)

Mr. Mark Burghoffer

Ms. Vanessa Day

We can also provide names and contact info of the Newark Firefighters who verified the odors.

Please confirm receipt and advise.

Thank you for your attention,  
-Marylou & Jerome Bongiorno

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